## **Clean Version Of Pending Claims**

- 36. A method for producing an absorbent web having a dry feel when wet comprising the steps of:
  - a) preparing an inherently hydrophilic basesheet comprising papermaking fibers and having an upper surface and a lower surface, said upper surface having elevated and depressed regions; and
  - b) depositing hydrophobic matter preferentially on the elevated regions of the upper surface of said basesheet.
- The method of claim 36, wherein said step of preparing the basesheet comprises the steps of depositing an aqueous slurry of papermaking fibers on a foraminous web to produce an embryonic web; molding said web on a three-dimensional substrate; and drying said web.
  - (New) The method of claim 36 wherein said basesheet is a wet-laid tissue sheet.
- (New) The method of claim 36 wherein said web is an airlaid structure.

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- 42. (New) The method of claim 36 wherein the hydrophobic matter is discontiguous.
- 43. (New) The method of claim 36 wherein said hydrophobic matter comprises synthetic fibers fixedly attached to the upper surface of said basesheet such that about 50% or less of the surface area of the basesheet is covered with the synthetic fibers.
- 44. (New) The method of claim 36 further comprising hydrophobic matter on a portion of the lower surface of said basesheet.
- 45. (New) The method of claim 36 wherein said elevated regions comprise from 5 to 300 protrusions per square inch having a characteristic height of at least 0.2 mm relative to said depressed regions.

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- 46. (New) The method of claim 36 wherein at least 30% of the upper surface of said basesheet remains substantially free of hydrophobic matter and said web has a Rewet value of 0.6 g or less.
- 47. (New) The method of claim 36 wherein essentially all of said hydrophobic matter resides above the 50% material line of a characteristic cross-section of said web.
- 48. (New) The method of claim 36 wherein the superficial basis weight of said hydrophobic matter is from about 1 to about 10 gsm and said basesheet has a basis weight of from about 10 to about 70 gsm.